

## THE QUASITOPOS HULL OF THE CATEGORY OF UNIFORM SPACES

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The quasitopos hull of a concrete category  $\mathcal{K}$  is the least cartesian closed topological category with representable strong partial morphisms, containing  $\mathcal{K}$  as a dense subcategory. The quasitopos hull of the category of uniform spaces is described: its objects are submetrizable bornological merotopic spaces, i.e., merotopic spaces endowed with a collection of ‘bounded’ sets related to the merotopy which is, in addition, generated by partial pseudometrics.

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### Introduction

We are going to describe the least extension of the category **Unif** (of uniform spaces) to a cartesian closed topological category with representable strong partial morphisms, i.e., to a concrete quasitopos. The existence of such a least extension, called the quasitopos hull, was established by Wyler [12] who also described the quasitopos hull of the category of topological spaces: it is the category of Choquet (=pseudotopological) spaces. We show that the quasitopos hull of **Unif** is a certain category of bornological merotopic spaces – this is closely related to the cartesian closed topological hull of **Unif** identified as the category of bornological uniform spaces, see [3].

**1.** Throughout the paper we work with *topological c-categories* in the sense of [5], i.e., with concrete categories  $\mathcal{K}$  over **Set** such that

- (i) each structured sink in  $\mathcal{K}$  has a final lift,
- (ii) for each set  $X$  the fibre (i.e., the collection of all  $\mathcal{K}$ -objects with underlying set  $X$ ) is small, and
- (iii) the fibre of a singleton set is a singleton set.

For terminology see [2] or [5].

In case  $\mathcal{K}$  is cartesian closed, condition (iii) is equivalent to each power object  $L^K$  having underlying set  $\text{hom}(K, L)$  (for all  $K, L \in \mathcal{K}$ ), see [4].

2. Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a cartesian closed topological category. Then  $\mathcal{K}$  is a quasitopos in the sense of [11] iff strong partial morphisms are representable in  $\mathcal{K}$ . This is equivalent, as proved in [1], to each object  $K$  being an initial subobject of its *one-point extension*  $K^*$  defined as follows. Let  $X$  be the underlying set of  $K$  and let  $\infty \notin X$ , then  $K^*$  is the final lift of the structured sink of all  $A \rightarrow X \cup \{\infty\}$ , where  $A \in \mathcal{K}$  and  $f$  is a map whose restriction defines a  $\mathcal{K}$ -morphism from the initial subobject of  $A$  on the set  $f^{-1}(X)$  into  $K$ . Assuming  $K$  is an initial (=strong) subobject of  $K^*$ , then the mono  $K \hookrightarrow K^*$  represents strong partial morphisms  $A \rightarrow K$  i.e., morphisms  $f: A_0 \rightarrow K$  where  $A_0 \hookrightarrow A$  is an initial subobject of  $A$ : we extend  $f$  to all of  $A$  by  $f^*(x) = \infty$  whenever  $f(x)$  is not defined, then  $f^*: A \rightarrow K^*$  is the unique morphism such that the following square is a pullback.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_0 & \hookrightarrow & A \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow f^* \\ K & \hookrightarrow & K^* \end{array}$$

3. By a *quasitopos hull* of a topological  $c$ -category  $\mathcal{K}$  is meant the least finitely continuous extension (i.e., full and concrete functor) into a topological category which is a quasitopos.

**Examples.** (i) [12] The quasitopos hull of  $\text{Top}$  is the category of pseudotopological spaces.

(ii) [1] The quasitopos hull of the category of finite topological spaces (or, of the category of posets) is the category of reflective binary relations.

(iii) [13] The quasitopos hull of the category of supertopological spaces of Doitchinov is the category of superspaces.

**Remark.** The examples of Wyler are based on the concept of Grothendieck topology. For each Grothendieck topology on  $\mathcal{K}$ , the sheaves form a quasitopos extension of  $\mathcal{K}$ . The canonical (=largest) Grothendieck topology then yields the least extension, i.e., the quasitopos hull. Our approach is different, we use the following proposition:

4. **Proposition** [1]. *Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a concrete quasitopos, and let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a full, concrete subcategory of  $\mathcal{L}$  which is finally dense (i.e., each  $\mathcal{L}$ -object is a final lift of a sink with domains in  $\mathcal{K}$ ). Then the quasitopos hull of  $\mathcal{K}$  is the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{L}$  over all objects which are initial lifts of sources with codomains of the form  $(L^K)^*$ , where  $K, L \in \mathcal{K}$ .*

**Remark.** The CCT (cartesian closed topological) hull has a similar description presented in [7]. Let  $\mathcal{L}$  be a CCT category, and let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a full, concrete and finally dense subcategory of  $\mathcal{L}$ . Then the CCT hull of  $\mathcal{K}$  is the full subcategory of  $\mathcal{L}$  over all objects which are initial lifts of sources with codomains  $L^K$  for  $K, L \in \mathcal{K}$ .

**5.** Recall that a topological category  $\mathcal{K}$  is said to have *quotients stable under pullbacks* if in each pullback opposite a quotient (=final surjective morphism = regular epi) there is a quotient.  $\mathcal{K}$  has [finite] *coproducts stable under pullbacks* if for each morphism  $f: A \rightarrow \coprod_{i \in I} B_i$  [with  $I$  finite] we have  $A = \coprod_{i \in I} f^{-1}(B_i)$ , with coproduct injections obtained by pulling those of  $\coprod B_i$  back along  $f$ . A topological category is a quasitopos iff it has both quotients and coproducts stable under pullbacks, see [5].

**6.** In [3] we have introduced the following concrete category  $A\mathcal{K}$  for each topological  $c$ -category  $\mathcal{K}$ . Objects are pairs  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  where  $X$  is an underlying set and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a collection of  $\mathcal{K}$ -objects  $A$  with  $|A| \subseteq X$  such that

(i)  $X = \bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{A}} |A|$ , and

(ii)  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  implies  $B \in \mathcal{A}$  for all  $B \sqsubseteq A$ , where  $B \sqsubseteq A$  means that  $|B| \subseteq |A|$  and the inclusion map is a morphism from  $B$  to  $A$  in  $\mathcal{K}$ .

Morphisms  $f: (X, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{B})$  of  $A\mathcal{K}$  are maps  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  such that for each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  there is  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $f(|A|) \subseteq |B|$  and the domain-range restriction of  $f$  is a  $\mathcal{K}$ -morphism  $A \rightarrow B$ . We proved that if  $\mathcal{K}$  has productive quotients, then  $A\mathcal{K}$  is cartesian closed.  $\mathcal{K}$  is considered as a full subcategory of  $A\mathcal{K}$  by identifying each  $K$  with  $(|K|, \{A \in \mathcal{K} | A \sqsubseteq K\})$ .

**7. Proposition.** *For each topological category  $\mathcal{K}$ , the category  $A\mathcal{K}$  is a quasitopos iff  $\mathcal{K}$  has quotients stable under pullbacks.*

**Proof.** (i) Let  $\mathcal{K}$  have quotients stable under pullbacks. By forming pullbacks along product projections, we conclude that quotients are finitely productive. Therefore, as proved in [3],  $A\mathcal{K}$  is cartesian closed: the power object  $(Y, \mathcal{B})^{(X, \mathcal{A})}$  is the object  $(\text{hom}((X, \mathcal{A}), (Y, \mathcal{B})), \mathcal{D})$  where  $\mathcal{D}$  is the set of all objects  $D$  with  $|D| \subseteq \text{hom}((X, \mathcal{A}), (Y, \mathcal{B}))$  such that for each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  there is  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  for which the evaluation map is a morphism  $\text{ev}: D \times A \rightarrow B$ ,  $\text{ev}(f, a) = f(a)$ .

To prove that  $A\mathcal{K}$  has representable strong partial morphisms, for each  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  in  $A\mathcal{K}$  denote by  $\mathcal{A}^*$  the collection of all objects  $A^*$  on subsets of  $X \cup \{\infty\}$  for which the initial subobject on  $|A^*| \cap X$  lies in  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  is clearly the initial subobject of  $(X \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{A}^*)$ . It is sufficient to show that given an object  $(Y, \mathcal{B})$  and a map  $f: Y \rightarrow X \cup \{\infty\}$ , then  $f: (Y, \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow (X \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{A}^*)$  is a morphism whenever its domain-range restriction is a morphism from  $(f^{-1}(X), \mathcal{B}_0)$ , the initial subobject of  $(Y, \mathcal{B})$ , into  $(X, \mathcal{A})$ . It then follows that  $(X \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{A}^*)$  is the one-point extension of  $(X, \mathcal{A})$ . In fact, for each  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  we denote by  $A^*$  the final object of the domain-range restriction  $f_0: |B| \rightarrow f(|B|)$  of  $f$ , and it is sufficient to show that  $A^* \in \mathcal{A}^*$ . This follows

from the fact that, since  $f_0: B_0 \rightarrow A$  is a quotient, the pullback along the inclusion of the subobject  $A$  of  $A^*$  on the set  $|A^*| \cap X$  yields a quotient:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B_0 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \\ f_0 \downarrow & & \downarrow f_1 \\ A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A^* \end{array}$$

We have  $B_0 \in \mathcal{B}_0$ , and since  $f_1$  is also a domain-range restriction of  $f$ , we conclude that  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , and hence  $A^* \in \mathcal{A}^*$ .

(ii) Let  $A\mathcal{K}$  be a quasitopos. Then  $A\mathcal{K}$  has quotients stable under pullbacks, and hence, it is sufficient to verify that  $\mathcal{K}$  is closed under pullbacks and quotients in  $A\mathcal{K}$ . The first follows from the fact that  $\mathcal{K}$  is finally dense in  $A\mathcal{K}$  (each  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  is the final lift of all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ ), and hence, closed under initial lifts. The latter is clear: if  $e: K \rightarrow L$  is a quotient in  $\mathcal{K}$ , then for each morphism  $e: K \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{B})$  in  $A\mathcal{K}$  we have  $L \in \mathcal{B}$ , and hence  $\{B \mid B \subseteq L\} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ .  $\square$

**8. Remark.** Let  $\mathcal{K}$  be a topological category which has both quotients and finite coproducts stable under pullbacks. Then the full subcategory  $A^*\mathcal{K}$  of  $A\mathcal{K}$  formed by all  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  with  $\mathcal{A}$  directed (i.e., for  $A_1, A_2 \in \mathcal{A}$  there is always  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  with  $A_1 \sqsubseteq A$  and  $A_2 \sqsubseteq A$ ) is a quasitopos.

In fact, in the preceding proof, if  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  and  $(Y, \mathcal{B})$  are both directed, then so is  $(\text{hom}((X, \mathcal{A}), (Y, \mathcal{B})), \mathcal{D})$ : given  $D_1, D_2 \in \mathcal{D}$ , the natural quotient  $D$  of  $D_1 + D_2$  whose underlying set is a subset of  $(\text{hom}(X, \mathcal{A}), (Y, \mathcal{B}))$  is an element of  $\mathcal{D}$  because for each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , we have  $D \times A$  as a quotient of  $(D_1 + D_2) \times A = D_1 \times A + D_2 \times A$ . Furthermore, for each directed  $(X, \mathcal{A})$ ,  $(X \cup \{\infty\}, \mathcal{A}')$  is also directed: given  $D_1, D_2 \in \mathcal{A}'$  consider again the natural quotient  $D$  of  $D_1 + D_2$  with the underlying set in  $X \cup \{\infty\}$ , then  $D \in \mathcal{A}'$ .

**Example.** The category **Merot** of merotopic spaces has both quotients and finite coproducts stable under pullbacks, and hence,  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$  is a quasitopos.

Merotopic spaces were introduced by Katětov [10] via micromeric collections, but the category **Merot** can be identified with that of semiuniform spaces of Isbell [9], i.e., of pairs  $(X, \alpha)$  where  $\alpha$  is a filter of covers of  $X$ ; see also [6].

**9. Remark.** In [3], the cartesian closed topological hull of **Unif** was described as the following category **BUnif** of *bornological uniform spaces*. Objects are triples  $(X, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  where  $\beta$  is a uniformity on the set  $X$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a bornology (i.e., a collection of ‘bounded’ subsets containing all singleton sets and closed under subsets and finite unions) satisfying the following conditions:

- (a)  $\beta$  is  $\mathcal{B}$ -final, i.e., the space  $(X, \beta)$  is the final lift of its bounded subspaces,
- (b)  $\mathcal{B}$  is  $\beta$ -closed, i.e., a set  $M \subseteq X$  is bounded whenever for each cover  $\mathcal{U} \in \beta$  there is a bounded set whose  $\mathcal{U}$ -star contains  $M$ .

Morphisms are bounded, uniformly continuous maps. Each uniform space  $(X, \beta)$  is identified with the object  $(X, \beta, \exp X)$ , and thus, **Unif** is considered as a full subcategory of **BUnif**.

By substituting uniformity with merotopy in the above definition, we obtain the following concept:

**10. Definition.** A *bornological merotopic space* is a triple  $(X, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  where  $\beta$  is a merotopy and  $\mathcal{B}$  is a bornology satisfying (a) and (b) above.

**Remark.** Each bornological merotopic space  $(X, \beta)$  can be identified with the object  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  of  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$  where  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  iff  $A$  is finer than some bounded subspace of  $(X, \beta)$ . In this sense, we regard the category **BMerot** of bornological merotopic spaces as a full subcategory of  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$ .

**11. Definition.** A bornological merotopic space  $(X, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  is said to be *submetrizable* if there is a collection  $r_i$  of pseudometrics defined on sets  $X_i \subseteq X (i \in I)$  with the following properties:

- (i)  $\beta$  is the coarsest  $\mathcal{B}$ -final merotopy with each  $r_i$  uniformly continuous on the subspace  $X_i (i \in I)$  and
- (ii)  $\mathcal{B}$  contains each set  $M \subseteq X$  such that for each  $i \in I$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $N \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $r_i(x, N \cap X_i) < \varepsilon$  for every  $x \in M \cap X_i$ .

**Remarks.** (i) Condition (a) means that  $\beta$  is the  $\mathcal{B}$ -final modification of the merotopy with the subbase formed by covers  $\mathcal{U}(r_i, \varepsilon)$  for  $i \in I$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  where  $\mathcal{U}(r_i, \varepsilon)$  consists of sets  $\{y \in X \mid \text{if } y \in X_i \text{ then } r_i(x, y) < \varepsilon\}$  for  $x \in X_i$ .

(ii) Each bornological uniform space is submetrizable – consider the collection of all uniformly continuous pseudometrics defined on all of the space.

We denote by **SBMerot** the category of submetrizable bornological merotopic spaces. We then have full concrete subcategories

$$\mathbf{Unif} \subseteq \mathbf{BUnif} \subseteq \mathbf{SBMerot} \subseteq \mathbf{BMerot} \subseteq A^*\mathbf{Merot}.$$

**12. Theorem.** The category **SBMerot** of submetrizable bornological merotopic spaces is the quasitopos hull of **Unif**.

**Proof.** We apply Proposition 4 on the quasitopos  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$ , and we shall prove that

- (a) **Unif** is finally dense in  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$ , and
- (b) the initial hull of the objects  $(P^Q)^*$  for uniform spaces  $P, Q$  in  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$  is the category **SBMerot**.

For (a), observe that  $\mathcal{K}$  is always dense in  $A\mathcal{K}$ , and hence, **Merot** is finally dense in  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$ . Thus, it is sufficient to prove that **Unif** is finally dense in **Merot**.

We shall verify that each merotopic space  $(X, \alpha)$  is a quotient of a uniform space. Put  $\alpha = \{\mathcal{U}_i \mid i \in I\}$ , and consider each cover  $\mathcal{U}_i$  as a discrete uniform space (the points of which are members of  $\mathcal{U}_i$ ). Let  $\tilde{A}$  denote the indiscrete uniform space on

the set  $X$ , and let  $B$  be the subspace of  $A \times \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{U}_i$  on the set of all points  $(x, (U_i)_{i \in I})$  with  $x \in \bigcap_{i \in I} U_i$  and  $U_i \in \mathcal{U}_i$  for each  $i \in I$ . Each cover  $\mathcal{U}_j \in \alpha$  defines the following uniform cover  $\mathcal{U}_j^* = \{U^* \mid U \in \mathcal{U}_j\}$  of  $B$ :

$$U^* = B \cap \left( U \times \prod_{i \in I} \mathcal{U}'_i \right), \quad \mathcal{U}'_i = \mathcal{U}_i \text{ if } i \neq j \text{ and } \mathcal{U}'_j = \{U\}.$$

Moreover, the covers

$$\mathcal{U}_{j_1}^* \wedge \mathcal{U}_{j_2}^* \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathcal{U}_{j_n}^*, \quad j_1, j_2, \dots, j_n \in J,$$

form a base of the uniformity of  $B$ . It follows that the first projection  $(x, (U_i)_{i \in I}) \rightarrow x$  defines a quotient map  $e: B \rightarrow A$ . In fact,

- (i)  $e$  is continuous because for each  $\mathcal{U}_j \in \alpha$  the cover  $\mathcal{U}_j^*$  refines  $e^{-1}[\mathcal{U}_j]$ ;
- (ii)  $e$  is final because for each  $\mathcal{U}_j^*$  we have  $e[\mathcal{U}_j^*] = \mathcal{U}_j$ , and hence, for each uniform cover  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $B$  we have  $e[\mathcal{V}] \in \alpha$ .

Before proving (b), let us remark that (a) guarantees that each full concrete subcategory  $\mathcal{L}$  of  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$  containing  $\mathbf{Unif}$  is closed in  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$  under formation of initial lifts and power objects. The statement (b) will be proved by verifying the following:

- (b1) Each submetrizable bornological merotopic space is an initial lift of a source with codomains  $P^Q$  for uniform spaces  $P, Q$ ;

and the category  $\mathbf{BSMerot}$  is closed in  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$  under

- (b2) initial lifts,
- (b3) the passage  $P \rightarrow P^*$ , and
- (b4) the formation of hom-objects of uniform spaces.

First, in order to prove (b1), it is sufficient to find, for each submetrizable space  $R$ , an initial source  $f_j: R \rightarrow R_j^*$  ( $j \in J$ ) with each  $R_j$  in  $\mathbf{BUnif}$ . In fact, since  $\mathbf{BUnif}$  is the CCT hull of  $\mathbf{Unif}$ , for each  $j \in J$  we then have an initial source  $g_{ji}: R_j \rightarrow P_{ji}^{Q_{ji}}$  ( $i \in I_j$ ) with  $P_{ji}$  and  $Q_{ji}$  uniform spaces. It is easy to see that the source  $g_{ji}^*: R_j^* \rightarrow (P_{ji}^{Q_{ji}})^*$  is also initial, and hence, we get the required initial source by composition:  $g_{ji}f_j: R \rightarrow (P_{ji}^{Q_{ji}})^*$ . Thus, let  $R = (X, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  be a submetrizable space with respect to a collection  $r_i$  of pseudometrics defined on  $X_i \subseteq X$  ( $i \in I$ ). For each  $i \in I$  denote by  $\mathcal{B}_i$  the bornology on the set  $X_i$  which consists of all  $M \subseteq X_i$  satisfying the following condition:

- (c<sub>i</sub>) for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists  $N \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $N \subseteq X_i$  with  $r_i(x, N) < \varepsilon$  for every  $x \in M$ .
- Let  $\beta_i$  be the uniformity on  $X_i$  obtained as the  $\mathcal{B}_i$ -final modification of the uniformity induced by  $r_i$ . Then  $(X_i, \beta_i, \mathcal{B}_i)$  is a bornological uniform space. We shall prove that the source

$$f_i: (X, \beta, \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow (X_i, \beta_i, \mathcal{B}_i)^*, \quad i \in I,$$

with

$$f_i(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{for } x \in X_i, \\ \infty & \text{for } x \in X - X_i \end{cases}$$

is initial. In fact, each  $f_i$  is a morphism because its domain-restriction to the subobject

$f_i^{-1}(X_i) = X_i$  of  $(X, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  is an (identity carried) morphism into  $(X_i, \beta_i, \mathcal{B}_i)$ . Moreover,  $\beta$  is the coarsest  $\mathcal{B}$ -final merotopy for which those restrictions are uniformly continuous for all  $i \in I$ , i.e., the coarsest among  $\mathcal{B}$ -final merotopies  $\gamma$  such that for each  $i$  the subspace  $(X_i, \gamma/X_i)$  is finer than  $(X_i, \beta_i)$ . (In fact, each such  $\gamma$  has the property that given  $M \in \mathcal{B}$ ,  $M \subseteq X_i$ , then  $r_i$  is uniformly continuous on  $(M, \gamma/M)$  – because  $M \in \mathcal{B}_i$ , and  $\beta_i/M$  is the uniformity induced by  $r_i$  – consequently,  $\gamma/M$  is finer than  $\beta/M$  for each  $M \in \mathcal{B}$ , and hence,  $\gamma$  is finer than  $\beta$ .) Moreover,  $\mathcal{B}$  is the largest  $\beta$ -closed bornology for which the above restrictions preserve bounded sets since  $\mathcal{B}$  contains each set satisfying (c<sub>i</sub>) above for all  $i$ . Thus, the above source is initial by the initial completeness of **BMerot**.

To prove (b2), consider an initial source

$$f_j: P \rightarrow (Y_j, \beta_j, \mathcal{B}_j) \in \mathbf{SBMerot} \ (j \in J)$$

in  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$ . Then  $P$  is clearly the bornological merotopic space  $(X, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  with

$$\mathcal{B} = \{M \mid M \subseteq X, f_j(M) \in \mathcal{B}_j \text{ for each } j \in J\}$$

and  $\beta$  is the  $\mathcal{B}$ -final modification of the initial merotopy (having subbase  $f_j^{-1}[\mathcal{U}]$  for  $j \in J, \mathcal{U} \in \beta_j$ ). Moreover, for each  $j$  there is a collection  $r_{ji}$  of pseudometrics defined on sets  $Y_{ji} \subseteq Y_j (i \in I_j)$  such that  $\beta_j$  is the  $\mathcal{B}_j$ -final modification of the coarsest merotopy  $\beta'_j$  making  $r_{ji}$  uniformly continuous (i.e., having subbase formed by all  $\mathcal{U}(r_{ji}, \varepsilon)$  for  $i \in I_j$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ ).

Define pseudometrics  $\bar{r}_{ji}$  on  $\bar{X}_{ji} = f^{-1}(Y_{ji})$  by  $\bar{r}_{ji}(a, b) = r_{ji}(f_j(a), f_j(b))$ , and let  $\beta'$  be the merotopy the subbase of which is formed by all the covers  $\mathcal{U}(\bar{r}_{ji}, \varepsilon)$  for all  $j, i$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since clearly  $\mathcal{U}(\bar{r}_{ji}, \varepsilon) \subset f_j^{-1}(\mathcal{U}(r_{ji}, \varepsilon))$  and  $f_j^{-1}(\mathcal{U}(r_{ji}, \varepsilon))$  is finer than  $\mathcal{U}(\bar{r}_{ji}, 2\varepsilon)$ , we conclude that  $\beta$  is the  $\mathcal{B}$ -final modification of  $\beta'$ . This proves (i) of Definition 11. To prove (ii), let  $M$  have the property of (ii), then for each  $j, i, \varepsilon > 0$  we have  $N \in \mathcal{B}$  with  $\bar{r}_{ji}(x, N \cap \bar{X}_{ji}) < \varepsilon$  for all  $x \in M \cap \bar{X}_{ji}$ . This implies that  $r_{ji}(y, f_j(N) \cap Y_{ji}) < \varepsilon$  for all  $y \in f_j(M) \cap Y_{ji}$  and since  $f_j(N) \in \mathcal{B}_j$ , we conclude that  $f_j(M) \in \mathcal{B}_j$  for each  $j$ . Thus,  $M \in \mathcal{B}$  and (ii) holds.

The proof of (b3) is elementary: for each  $(Y, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  in **SBMerot** we have  $(Y, \beta, \mathcal{B})^* = (Y \cup \{\infty\}, \beta^*, \mathcal{B}^*)$  where  $\beta^*$  consists of all covers  $\mathcal{U}^* = \{U \cup \{\infty\} \mid U \in \mathcal{U}\}$  for  $\mathcal{U} \in \beta$ , and  $\mathcal{B}^*$  consists of all  $M \subseteq Y \cup \{\infty\}$  with  $M \cap Y \in \mathcal{B}$ . The same pseudometrics used in Definition 11 for  $(Y, \beta, \mathcal{B})$  demonstrate that  $(Y, \beta, \mathcal{B})^*$  is a submetrizable bornological merotopic space.

Finally, (b4) follows from the fact that **BUnif**, which is the CCT hull of **Unif**, is contained in **SBMerot**.  $\square$

**Open problem.** Characterize the quasitopos hull of **Merot**.

**Remark.** This hull can be found as a full subcategory of  $A^*\mathbf{Merot}$ , but the question is what subcategory.

In the course of the International Conference on Categorical Topology (L'Aquila, Italy, 1986) we have announced a characterization of the quasitopos hull of **Merot**. But this was unfortunately wrong.

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